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*The Solar Powered Stirling Engine*

The purpose of the investigation is to investigate the practicality of a solar-powered stirling engine. I hypothesized that a parabolic mirror or a fresnel lens would be a practical way to power a small stirling engine. The experiment involves using several different combinations of mirrors and lenses to power a stirling engine. The idea is practical. Parabolic mirrors and fresnel lenses are both capable of powering a low temperature differential gamma type stirling engine using direct sunlight. The fresnel lens can produce higher revolutions per minute than the parabolic mirror because the fresnel lens can easily be positioned to power the engine while the engine is in a vertical position. Using other mirrors to reflect the focused light of the parabolic mirror or the fresnel lens proved impractical. Based on the observations from the study, the idea of using sunlight, lenses, and mirrors to power a stirling engine is practical. The fresnel lens is the best for powering the engine.